

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-07

EUR-12 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NASA-01 NEA-10

NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01 OES-06 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 NRC-05 /128 W
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R 231515Z APR 76

FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9508
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
ERDA GERMANTOWN MD
IAEA VIENNA 2886
NATO 3766
USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA
USUN NY 2934

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 3111

DISTO

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, CCD

SUBJ: CCD-FRENCH ATTITUDE TOWARD CCD

1. AT APRIL 22 WESTERN MEETING, DUTCH, GERMAN, ITALIAN AND
CANADIAN REPS REPORTED ON THEIR GOVERNMENTS' DEMARCHES TO FRENCH
TO PROBE CURRENT FRENCH THINKING ON QUESTION OF TAKING SEAT IN
CCD. VAN DER KLAUW (NETHERLANDS) SAID THAT FRENCH DIRECTOR
GENERAL OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS (DE LABOULAI) TOLD DUTCH OPPOSITE
NUMBER ON MARCH 30 THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO CHANGE IN PRINCIPLE
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IN FRENCH ATTITUDE TOWARD CCD. HIS GOVERNMENT VIEWED PRESENT

STRUCTURE, MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK AS DEFECTIVE. ANY REFORMS WOULD HAVE TO DEAL WITH ALL THREE OF THESE ASPECTS. IF CHANGES WERE MADE IN ALL THREE, FRANCE WOULD BE WILLING TO RECONSIDER ITS ATTITUDE. HOWEVER, THE INITIATIVE WOULD HAVE TO BE TAKEN BY CCD. DE LABOULAI ADDED THAT QUESTION OF CHINESE MEMBERSHIP WOULD BE IMPORTANT, BUT WAS NOT A CONDITION TO FRANCE JOINING CCD.

2. SCHLAICH (FRG) REPORTED THAT DE LABOULAI HAD GIVEN FRG MUCH THE SAME STORY, BUT HAD INDICATED THAT, IF CHANGES WERE MADE, FRANCE WOULD EXAMINE ISSUE "VERY OBJECTIVELY AND IN A POSITIVE WAY." DE LABOULAI FELT THAT CCD MIGHT CREATE AN EMPTY CHAIR FOR CHINA. HE ALSO SAID THAT, IN VIEW OF MASSIVE CRITICISM OF CCD, IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT UN AD HOC COMMITTEE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT CCD BE REBORN IN ANOTHER FORM WHERE ALL COUNTRIES INTERESTED IN DISARMAMENT COULD PARTICIPATE OR BE REPRESENTED. HE IMPLIED THAT FRANCE MIGHT SPEAK TO THIS EFFECT IN THE AD HOC COMMITTEE.

3. DIBERNARDO (ITALY) REPORTED THAT ITALIAN EMBASSY IN PARIS HAD THOUGHT THIS WAS AN INAPPROPRIATE TIME TO APPROACH THE FRENCH DUE TO PRESENT POLITICAL SITUATION, WHICH WAS MAKING THE ADMINISTRATION WOO THE GAULLISTS. HOWEVER, THEIR MINISTER COUNSELOR DID HAVE A CONVERSATION WITH DE LABOULAI WHO SAID THAT IT WOULD NOT BE ENOUGH TO CHANGE PRESENT STRUCTURE OF THE CCD IN SMALL WAYS. SITUATION WOULD HAVE TO BE MADE TRULY REPRESENTATIVE.

4. BARTON (CANADA) SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAD ALSO HAD SOME DISCUSSIONS IN WHICH THE FRENCH HAD CRITICIZED THE COMPOSITION OF THE CCD MEMBERSHIP, STATING THAT COUNTRIES WITH SUBSTANTIAL MILITARY POWER, LIKE AUSTRALIA, SHOULD BE INCLUDED. BARTON BELIEVED THE FRENCH ENJOYED PRESENT SITUATION WITH THEIR EMPTY CHAIR, AS IT LEFT ALL THEIR OPTIONS OPEN.DALE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, MEMBERSHIP, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976GENEVA03111
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760156-0139
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760430/aaaaazig.tel
Line Count: 95
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 MAR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <30 MAR 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CCD-FRENCH ATTITUDE TOWARD CCD
TAGS: PARM, FR, CCD
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006